

A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, WILL BE HELD IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM AT THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Matt Denison, Kay Garry, Det. Keith Whitlow, Lt. Col. Mike Lawrence, Code Enforcement Officer Pam Badger, Traffic Director Dennis Smith, Fire Chief Matt Juliot, Street Dept Director Mickey Thompson, City Clerk Marcey Wisman, Building Commissioner Ron Hartman, David Hall, Animal Control, and Brad Kessans, Utility Manager.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Denison called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Mr. Denison stated that they would be amending the agenda due to Detective Whitlow's needs to leave early for a meeting. He introduced and welcomed Mr. Brad Kessans who is the new Utility Manager for the City.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Denison stated that at the last meeting Chief Crabtree presented information regarding some criminal charges against sales people for the APEX Alarm System and he would like for Det. Whitlow to give them further information before they make their decision.

Det. Whitlow informed them that the criminal investigation is still underway and that there are issues of inappropriate sales means and there was an alleged claim of money missing from a bedroom after a sales person left the house.

Lt. Col. Lawrence stated that he spoke with the company's legal team and they seem like a reputable company.

Mrs. Garry stated that based on the information received and their past practices she moved to deny the permit, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Denison stated that they had a proposal given to them by Chief Crabtree and Detective Whitlow last week concerning a criminal investigator position without having to have the rank of Corporal. He stated that they had a few more questions regarding this and they would like to table it for another week.

Mrs. Garry moved to table, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

Item #1 - Rich Everhart re: Dumpster permits for Habitat for Humanity at 235 Green Street.

Mr. Everhart informed the board that they are rehabbing a house at 235 Green Street. He explained that they had originally thought that they would tear it down but he believes that they can save it. He asked if the City could donate a dumpster and bring it to the sight. He stated that they would need it for two weeks, three at the most.

Mr. Denison asked Mr. Thompson if they had a dumpster available.

Mr. Thompson stated that they do.

Mrs. Garry asked if they would be putting that on the street.

Mr. Everhart stated that he thinks they can put it in the alley behind the houses where it isn't blocking the alley.

Mr. Garry made a motion to approve the dumpster permit for Habitat for Humanity at 235 Green Street, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor

Item #2 - Becky Klueh, 944-3737 re: Request for “Children at Play” sign before the curve on Maple Ct.

Mr. Denison stated that he spoke with Mrs. Klueh who wanted to come to have a sign put up in her neighborhood on Maple Court where the kids are playing basketball and other activities in the street. He stated that he has not been out to the location and asked Mr. Thompson to go out and take a look.

Mrs. Garry made a motion to approve with the stipulation that Mr. Thompson check into it first, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

Item #3 - Carl Malysz re: Temporary closure of Scribner from Elm Street to Main Street

Mr. Malysz stated that in regards to south bound traffic on Scribner off of Elm Street they are going to begin August 1st with a temporary trial period of 30 days to see how this works and he asked the board that they have a public hearing to see how they feel about this. He stated that currently they have several problems with this area such as the police having trouble leaving the police department and patrons crossing the street from the library.

Mrs. Garry asked how they will stop traffic from going through there.

Mr. Malysz stated that they will have barricades.

Mrs. Garry asked if there would be signs directing traffic.

Mr. Malysz stated that there would be.

Mr. Malysz announced streets that they would be milling and resurfacing, State Street from Elm to Union, Mt. Tabor from Charlestown to Grantline, McDonald Lane from Charlestown Rd. to Grantline Rd. He stated that these are being funded with LRS funds. He informed them that there may be some questions why they are only going to Union on State Street and the reason why is because they were informed a couple months ago they were informed by Indiana American Water that they will be doing a major line change down the middle of State St. from Green Valley to right before Union at Arnie's Pizza. He also informed them that State Street from Elm to Main Street is the States responsibility. He stated that this is the first project that will begin July 7th. He stated that the second will be Mt. Tabor Rd. He explained that there may be questions why they will be doing that road when it is slated to be completely rebuilt, but he informed them that project is a federally funded project that may not be ready to begin for another 4 or 5 years. He stated that there are some utility issues that Mr. Thompson has talked to the gas company about and as soon as that is taken care of they will begin this paving. He stated that the third project will be restoring McDonald Lane which is also slated for a major reconstruction but it is also a federal project that will not begin for 4 or 5 years and this road is currently in deplorable shape and needs to be done sooner than the rebuild can begin. He stated that these projects will be a little of \$300,000 and they will be coming to the board with more projects but the Mayor wants to talk with the City Council before going deeper into the repaving project. He stated that when they received the study for the road conditions they discovered that they have approximately \$8M worth of paving that needs to be done.

Mr. Denison asked if he wanted them to approve the street closures today or is he here just for information purposes only.

Mr. Malysz again introduced Brad Kessans and stated that the Mayor is very happy that Mr. Kessans has accepted the job and explained that he will manage the contracts that the City has with EMC.

Item #4 - Matt Denison re: preparations for July 4th festivities

Mr. Denison thanked Mr. Ron Granger and Mr. Mickey Thompson for all of their help in getting the riverfront ready for the 3rd. He stated that they need to close the boat ramp on Wednesday and Thursday and they need to close River Road from E. 6th to the other side of the amphitheatre. He explained that the thought it would be a good idea and they need to do a blanket vendors permit for everyone that works with the City staff and goes through the correct procedure to get a vendor's permit.

Mrs. Garry moved to approve Mr. Denison's requests, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

Mrs. Garry stated that she wanted to stress that no City monies have been used for this event and that it was funded through the Tourism Bureau, Caesar's and other private industries.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item #1 - Request for Street lights on Knob Avenue in the 1300 Block area in Silver Hills

Mr. Thompson stated that there is a street light on either end of this street. He informed them that there is some vegetation on the Highland end that makes it more difficult to see and he would recommend that they try to get rid of the vegetation and not put in a third light.

Mrs. Garry moved to deny the street light at this time on the 1300 Block of Silver, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

Item #2 - Doug Corey with IN-AWC re: waterline relocation.

Mr. Denison asked that this be left on the agenda and that he would contact them and see what the status of this is.

Item #3 - Chief Crabtree, re: creation of criminal investigator position and change of hiring policy to allow patrol officers to qualify for said position.

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and tabled.

COMMUNICATIONS - CITY OFFICIALS:

Chief Juliot asked Mr. Thompson about Pearl Street and if he was ready for them to clean the streets.

Mr. Thompson stated that he wanted to make sure that they have all the smaller trash picked up first and once they get out there with the preliminary clean up his men could come in and wash the streets down.

Ms. Wisman reported that she was downtown this weekend and noticed a lot of vegetation coming up between the bricks on Market Street and suggested that they spray with weed killer.

Mr. Thompson stated that this is part of what Chief Juliot addressed and there is a company coming in to do some landscaping downtown but right now they are focusing on the Pearl Street area. He stated after the third they will be working on the rest of the downtown area.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

Maurice King, 2035 McDonald Ave, thanked Pam Badger and others for helping his neighborhood with some of the grass and cleanliness issues. He stated that at the last meeting he attended on April 22, they addressed a zoning code issue in their neighborhood which is not actually their issue to handle but they were told by Mr. Malysz that the City would take this under advisement and there has been no action taken since that time. He stated that CCE is an I-A1 business and he has violated several zoning codes. He stated that they are here before the board to ask for their help in addressed this issue.

Mr. Denison stated that the last time Mr. King came to them he went out to the neighborhood and went through the issues with him and it is a wide array of issues. He stated that he would like to commend them for the work and time that they have put into the neighborhood. He stated that he put together a list of all the issues and the corresponding departments to handle those issues and many of them are zoning issues. He stated that he would like to schedule a meeting with Mr. King and Mr. Wood after the meeting today and they will get the ball rolling on these issues.

Mr. Malysz stated that he wanted to make it perfectly clear to Mr. King and the neighborhood that the England administration is working diligently behind the scenes to correct these issues.

Mr. King, Fairmont Neighborhood, stated that there are large piles of tires out there and if this would catch on fire it would be very dangerous.

Mr. Denison stated that they will work very hard to correct these issues and to work with the neighborhood and keep in touch.

Lloyd Wimp, 1834 E. Spring Street, asked if the same company that did Market Street is going to do the new street projects and if so would it monitored by the City Engineer.

Mr. Malysz stated that the Street Commissioner will be monitoring the work and reporting to the City Engineer.

Mr. Wimp stated that when they did Market Street last year they left ridges in the pavement and there were some issues with areas around the manhole covers. He stated that there was also a wad of bare wire left sticking up out of the pavement and he would like to insure that if they are going to use the limited dollars to do this work that it is done correctly. He stated that whoever did Mt. Tabor did a good job but Market was a mess.

Mr. Malysz stated that for the record MAC did Mt. Tabor.

Mr. Denison stated that this is recognized by everyone and when Market Street was completed it was a major issue with who signed off on it and approved it.

Mr. Wimp stated that most of his experience has been with repaving state roads and he doesn't see why the City can't hold the contractor's to the same standards and just because New Albany isn't a larger city doesn't mean that they have to settle for sub-standard work.

Mr. Denison asked if anyone was present to address the potential closing of Scribner Drive South for a temporary period of time that did not sign in.

Mrs. Garry moved to approve the closing of Scribner Drive South for a temporary period beginning August 1, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

BIDS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Garry moved to approve the June 24th as submitted, Mr. Denison second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Malysz announced that tomorrow they are having a meeting with INDOT at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the railroad crossing.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Matt Denison, President

Marcey Wisman, City Clerk